



TITLE IV: Safe and Drug Free Schools Annual Program Report Anchorage School District

ORION ELEMENTARY
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What methods did you use to report the results of your grant to interested members of the public? Some examples would be your school newsletter, parents' meeting, or your school web site.

After the culmination of each activity, club, or family event, Orion posted a story in the school newsletter thanking families, students and teachers for participating. In individual classrooms teachers were encouraged to send notice of these events in their classroom newsletters. Bulletins were also sent home to promote these events and boost attendance. Each activity, club, and family event were a great success due to these reminders.

Major Accomplishment

This year was the first year for the Orion Journalism Club. Through this club, students has the opportunity to work cooperatively to publish our school yearbook. Participants were involved in all phases of the journalistic process including: planning, photography, writing, and meeting deadlines. This club worked through lunches, came in over spring break, and took time and effort to process the yearbook pictures, proofread the text, and make sure the finished product was one that all students, teachers and families of Orion would be proud to own. It is by far the highest quality yearbook I have seen produced in the five years I have been at Orion.

Students Served

Elementary	429
Middle School	0
High School	0

Services and Activities Provided:

During this school year, our school provided the following activities:

- After-School or before-school programs
- Alternative education programs
- Conflict resolution/peer mediation
- Parent education/involvement
- Student support services (e.g., student assistance programs, counseling, mentoring, identification and referral)
- Teacher/staff training

Specialized Program Use

Our school used the following specialized program(s):

- Cooperative Learning
- DARE
- Red Ribbon Week
- The Great Body Shop
- RCCP Curriculum
- Kelso's Choice
- 40 Developmental Assets Framework
- Media Literacy

Coordination

Our school's drug and violence prevention program coordinates with the following other agencies and organizations for the services indicated:

Alcohol/drug counseling and/or treatment agency

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Law enforcement officials

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Health providers

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Social services providers

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Community-based group for drug/alcohol/tobacco

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Community-based group for violence prevention

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Parent group(s)

- Joint Service Delivery, Referrals

Student and Parent Involvement

Students **were** involved in design, delivering, or critiquing drug or violence prevention programs.

Parents **were** involved in design, delivering, or critiquing drug or violence prevention programs.

Activity Reports

Journalism Skill Building Classes

Brief Description

The Journalism Club provided students the opportunity to work cooperatively to publish Orion's yearbook, newsletters for families and staff, and a 6th grade magazine. Students were involved in all phases of the journalistic process including: planning, writing, meeting deadlines, ethics, and the benefits of writing quality pieces.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

Out of the above listed skills, the following were concentrated on to measure growth in the participants of this club: meeting deadlines, ethics, and the community benefits of writing quality pieces. In the skill of ethical understanding of words and the power they have, there was a 17% increase in understanding. In the area of understanding why writer's set goals and have deadlines, there was a 25% increase. There was also a 17% increase in knowledge surrounding the understanding of how writing can benefit the community.

Other Comments

SEL Healthy Goal Setting Club

Brief Description

Students participated in XC running club where they practiced setting personal goals, challenge themselves, and interact with peers in a supportive setting. Students participated in XC running meets with other Anchorage area students. Staff members, family members, and students practiced together in various running events on and off school grounds.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

Out of the 60 students who participated in running club this year, 28% stated they had never set goals for themselves in running in the pre assessment. By the end of the club, 100% of participants had set goals for themselves related to running. In the pre assessment 38% said they often gave up on goals they had set for themselves because they were too challenging. In the post assessment that number had been reduced by 20%. Additionally, there was a 25% increase in awareness in the many ways running can improve your health. Overall,

this club serves as an important tool representing the importance of goal setting, achieving goals, and healthy lifestyles.

Other Comments

Positive Enrichment Through Art

Brief Description

Students in Art Explorations worked cooperatively to create meaningful pieces of art to hang throughout Orion. Students created murals, sculptures, mobiles, and paintings that focused on pride, respect, and responsibility. This club gave students the opportunity to leave a permanent footprint at their school. They worked together to make Orion Elementary a place they are proud to attend and proud to have their art displayed in.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

Of the 15 participants in art explorations, 86% stated that they learned responsibility and respect through the club by learning how to use the art supplies correctly, clean up after themselves, and improve their skills surrounding art. 93% of the participants stated they learned more about taking pride in their artwork. This was a 31% increase from the pre assessment scores of 62% of students who took pride in their art. This clearly shows that the art explorations club taught students how to produce quality artwork and take pride in it.

Other Comments

Orion School Wide Reading Incentive

Brief Description

Students participated in a school wide reading incentive in correlation with the Iditarod. They participated in an assembly with the Alaska Aces to open the reading challenge, and then they read their way to Nome based upon efforts to reach a goal of minutes read total. Readers who made it to Nome successfully were rewarded with an assembly with real Alaskan dog mushers and the canine members of their sled team.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

75% of the 429 students attending Orion participated in the individual portion of the reading incentive. Of those 75% participating, 50% made it to Nome. Of the 19 classes participating as teams, 4 successfully made it to Nome, which is a 20% success rate. Those students who participated were continually encouraged by staff, parents, and fellow students. The interest level was increased by the prospect of attending a special assembly with young mushers from our community.

Other Comments

SEL Communication Skill Building Sessions

Brief Description

5th and 6th grade girls met regularly with the school counselor in a group that promoted fun, creativity, sharing and friendships. Female students were offered to participate by listening, relating to each other, and sharing experiences from their lives inside and outside of school.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

There were a total of 10 girls who participated in the club. Students were given a questionnaire measuring their attitudes involving making friends, being comfortable with themselves and seeking out new friends, and being cooperative and open to solving problems that arise in friendships. After the sessions were complete, there was significant change in the attitudes and behaviors of the participants. There was a 200% increase in the girls' knowledge of how to make friends. That means they doubled their understanding of this skill. There was a 50% increase in being comfortable seeking out new friends, and a 350% increase in their ability to be comfortable with themselves and seek out new friends. That means their understanding and ability to use these skills almost quadrupled through their sessions in Girls Circle.

Other Comments

This activity was offered to 5th and 6th grade girls and was especially helpful in solving problems and social issues that arose throughout the school year. It also gave the girls more of an opportunity to form a relationship with our school counselor, which is a great caring adult for them to identify and be able to have as a support.

Orion Family Activity Series

Brief Description

Staff members at Orion planned and implemented a series of evenings that brought families to the school for learning and social activities. Asset materials were available at each of these events, as well as the SCCS survey on the culminating evening. These events included: Open House, Ice Cream Social, Math/Science Night, Family Movie Nights, Orion Health and Wellness Night, and the Spring Carnival

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

Out of the 429 students attending Orion, an average of 50%, or about 200 students participated in these events throughout the year. Family members also volunteered their time to help out at these events. Originally, the events were scheduled after school days. Parent participation started out at low numbers, with only 15 volunteers. Throughout the year we continued to host these family events after school and brought in support from our PTA to serve food and drinks for our families. By spring time, when we hosted out larger events, we were able to gather 30 parent volunteers to help out. Parent support doubled throughout the year with the consistency of the events and the positive feedback we received. At our last event, the spring carnival, there were 250 students that attended. That is an increase of 1.25% from the start of the year. This goes to show that involving parents and students in after school activities increases interest in the school events, and raises moral amongst students, families, and teachers here at Orion.

Other Comments

Goal Setting and Strategy Through Chess

Brief Description

Students participated in weekly meetings after school to practice chess techniques. They had an introduction to the basic strategies of game play, engaged in practice matches, and prepared for the culminating event, the chess tournament. The first through fourth place finishers will receive a trophy for their hard work and commitment.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

When the chess club started there was only 1 participant out of 14 who hadn't played chess before. When asked about setting goals and sticking to them until they are achieved, 28% said they gave up before chess club. After chess club had finished and the lessons on goal setting had been taught, only 16% reported still giving up if they didn't achieve their goal. That was a 12% improvement in setting and achieving goals related to chess. At the start of chess club 79% of participants stated that they always try their best to achieve the goals they set. At the end of chess club, that percentage had risen to 86%. That is a 7% increase in efforts to achieve goals once they are set.

Other Comments

SEL Skill Development Classes

Brief Description

A series of beginning and advanced knitting classes were offered to staff, students, and parents of Orion. These classes began with the basics of knitting and individually challenged each participant to perform to the best of their ability. The instructor provided new skill building activities at each meeting. These classes helped foster creativity and a connection to school, while challenging participants to produce an end product.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

At the start of the club, 38% of the participants had never knitted before. Throughout the club, this percentage was increased to 100% of

participants actively knitting on a weekly basis. In the pre-assessment, 23% of participants said they usually give up on a goal if it is too challenging for them. In the post-assessment 2% stated that they would still give up, where 21% changed their opinions and stated they would continue to achieve their goal, no matter how challenging it was. Overall, only 2% of participants stated they did not enjoy challenges and disliked learning new skills. This measure remained the same in both the pre and post assessments.

Other Comments

Grant Technician

Brief Description

The grant technician plans and implements all activities surrounding the Safe and Drug Free Schools Grant to include: preparing and administering the pre and post assessments, organizing the events, scheduling meeting, and recruiting additional support when needed.

Needs Assessment

- a. SCCS -

Evaluation Methods

- a. pre/post assessment

Data Summary

The grant technician, students, staff, and families work together throughout the school year to provide these activities for students at Orion. The students and families enjoy the many events that bring our school community closer together.

Other Comments